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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

Summary No. 15

June 20, 1942

ARIZONA (May 15).--Economist preparing information for farmers on price control regulations. System for determining alfalfa hay prices being developed one county. Cooperating with county war boards in assisting farmers to secure priority ratings on farm equipment, and in investigating farmers' and ranchers' applications for building improvements. Series of radio programs will discuss priority regulations.

Entomologist conducted grasshopper bait-spreading program on 200,000 acres range land.

Article, "Cotton Thinning and Cultivation," first in series on production American-Egyptian cotton in State, prepared and distributed to agents and farm papers.

Use of enriched bread and flour stressed. Several counties planning milk campaigns for school lunches to be ready for fall opening school. Home demonstration agents starting programs on sugar substitutes. Information given on care of clothing and household supplies made of fabrics.

Poultry production study completed shows 30 percent increase in chicks hatched. Milk production increase is 5.2 percent.

Club members showing willingness to do everything possible to help with war effort. Two new club bulletins, "Scrap Iron Collections" and "Health," distributed.

ARKANSAS (June 1).--Since April 15, 27,231 of the 51,000 local leaders, received special training in 4,557 meetings. Additional 6,342 farm families enrolled in Food-for-Victory program. 2,554 more white families and 7,554 more Negro families enrolled in Plant-to-Prosper and Live-at-Home competition, respectively. Total enrollment in Food-for-Victory campaign is 130,617 families.

Agents attending numerous civilian defense council and county war board meetings to present wartime information of value to farmers.

Food preservation schools conducted by nutrition specialists have been attended by all home demonstration agents. Since April 15, agents have reached more than 15,000 women with information on food preservation, nutrition, low income diets, through meetings, demonstrations, nutrition schools. 147 nutrition centers established to which 3,625 persons have come for information. Assisted with hot lunch programs 723 schools serving 75,502 children.

Emphasis continued on farm machinery care and repair and scrap collection. 6,495 tons of scrap sold.

To assure warehouse facilities for peanut crop, work has been started on inventory of suitable warehouses and obtaining commitments from warehousemen.

942,730 copies of 24 Food-for-Victory leaflets distributed to farm people. Series of Extension wartime letters begun, addressed to all Minutemen, relating to phases wartime program.

4-H Club work continuing with increased enrollments in Victory Clubs. An additional 15,779 members have changed their demonstrations to Victory projects that contribute directly to wartime food and feed effort.

DELAWARE (June 1).-- Neighborhood leadership program will be completed by July 1. Splendid cooperation from OCD. Effort made to coordinate leadership program with county and community civilian defense work. Major objectives of project as outlined by State committee: To establish means of rapid communication that will assist rural people in making decisions as to war effort; to develop sense of local responsibility; to take inventory of local resources, and to correct rumors.

Educational program on price ceiling and rationing information in progress. Printed publication for farmers being prepared, and numerous talks given by extension personnel. Contacts made with State representatives OPA and WPB.

On request technical fertilizer committee of OAWR, report on fertilizer use in Delaware being developed.

State and county war boards assisted in soybean program. Efforts made to locate and properly distribute combines for harvesting beans.

Entomologists aiding mosquito control at Army posts. All counties held meetings of planning committees and farm leaders on 1943 production goals; report being prepared. Assistance given farm placement and FSA on labor problems. Migratory labor camp allotted to State. Assisting canning companies in contacting Selective Service boards relative deferment key men. Extension representatives serving on the State defense transportation committee.

Home demonstration agents cooperating with local rationing boards and advising on sugar rationing. Home demonstration club programs changed to meet war conditions; topics presented include: Sugar Saving Cookery, Work Clothing for Wartime Activities, Consumer Buying with Rationing, Substitutes, etc.

4-H Clubs attempting to subdivide some clubs into small neighborhood groups under adult leaders, to develop a walk-in type of meeting which will function when transportation is not available.

HAWAII (June 5).--Director giving special attention to warehouse problem in Honolulu where 6-month reserve supply of food is being built up and stored in small quantities in widely scattered areas. Also working closely with Washington representative of OPA on local problems. Extension economists working on sales policy and organization of wholesalers for greatest efficiency. Made field trips to check on vegetable production assisted in plans for selling surplus. Animal husbandman studying possibilities of setting up Hog Slaughtering Authority to buy and kill hogs, control distribution, hold down retail pork prices. Made detailed plans for construction trench silos to store pineapple pulp silage.

Food specialists demonstrated emergency uses of coconut to 40 women in nutrition class, and to 75 housewives at meeting. Many natives surprised to learn that butter can be made from coconut.

Clothing specialist made canvas first-aid kits for home demonstration agents and prepared directions for making them so that agents might teach others.

County agents continue cooperation with Office of Military Governor in issuing gasoline ration cards, and permits to slaughter pigs, to purchase agricultural poisons, and to purchase poultry and livestock feed under ration plans. Registered commercial fruit and vegetable growers all counties to estimate potential Territorial food production. East Oahu agents assisted three battery units of Coast Artillery in planning and planting gardens totaling about 5 acres, and assisted an Infantry company in terracing and planting 1 acre. Oahu trucking pool progressing - instructions given for overnight storing on trucks, and returning market containers to farmers.

Home demonstration agents receiving requests from housewives for instruction in making crackers, salad dressing, and candy, as these products absent from local stores.

Agents cooperating with health clinics and baby clinics on balanced diets, and with OCD in educating people for protection against possible gas raids.

KANSAS (June 1).--Counties being definitely organized on neighborhood leader basis to carry out all wartime activities. District agents and specialists meeting advisory councils all counties to prepare leaders for anti-inflation program. Information also given on transportation problem and rural fire control.

Cooperating in survey of high-school boys and girls available for work on farms during summer. Leaders making survey of labor needed and reporting information to employment bureau. Information secured on tire situation for tractors and other equipment.

Evidence throughout State of successful Victory Garden campaign. 50 percent increase in number of gardens. Insect control now being emphasized. Commercial acreage in tomatoes and sweetpotatoes increased.

In rural fire prevention and control program assistance solicited from State and deputy fire marshals, State inspection Bureau, and Mutual Assurance Association. All neighborhood leaders being informed on program in effort to complete organization before harvest season.

Indications egg production goal will be surpassed by considerable margin. Interest shown in remodeling barns and other farm buildings to care for pullet crop.

Training of neighborhood leaders in food preservation continuing; demonstrations by emergency nutritionists in 47 counties, attendance 6,800; 2,038 leaders trained. One specialist assisted with refresher training program for 75 senior home economics students at State College; another with a refresher course in Topeka for 25 women. Many counties have made plans for preserving food to be used for school lunches during coming year.

MARYLAND (June 10).--Neighborhood-leader set-up practically completed and information on two important subjects sent them for dissemination to rural families: (1) To inform their neighbors how, where, and from whom additional quantities of sugar for canning could be obtained; (2) latest information regarding priorities on farm-building repairs and farm equipment.

Extension took leadership in bringing together all agencies in State interested in rural fire prevention and control; complete program worked out with active-support agencies. Working with extension on plan are State defense council, State department forestry, regional forestry office, State firemen's association, State insurance commissioner. Organization being set up each county under leadership county agent and county fire marshall. Campaign under way to impress all farm people relative heavy losses from fires under ordinary conditions and greatly increased hazards in war. Provision made for adequate fire watchers, additional equipment where needed.

Victory Garden program now in canning and storage stage, with emphasis placed on late-planted crops, and rotation crops to follow those being harvested. Spraying demonstrations for control insects conducted. Special campaign for control Japanese beetles.

Arrangements made for salvaging used egg cases at an Army camp for egg producer's use in marketing their product.

As an aid in providing storage for grain, all county agents furnished with working plans for building bins from available materials not under priorities.

Movement spreading among 4-H Clubs to hold neighborhood meetings confined to walking distance.

MINNESOTA (June 10).--Comprehensive neighborhood-leader plan launched, ready for service by July 1. Plan calls for 1 man and 1 woman leader each neighborhood, with duties ranging from complete canvass neighborhood in case of urgency, to casual contacts. Regular and special contacts with leaders to channel through county agents. Leaders backed by township committees to help with organization. Nearly 20,000 leaders in State.

Cost of living program under way. All neighborhood leaders to get special publications; general work in counties through press and radio, special meetings of town and country people. Stress on desirability of paying for war now through taxes and bonds, need for conserving money and materials, paying debts, refraining from competition for scarce goods.

Fire-prevention program organized, coupled with companion program to use farm woodlot resources. Rural-community services and organizations to be rallied to prevent fire loss; village and city fire-fighting organizations asked to help organize fire fighting in rural areas. AAA committeemen provided with material on increased use fuel wood, preparation wood posts to replace steel, better marketing woodlot products to avoid waste.

Second stage family food supply program to begin with Statewide leader training in canning and storage. Teams of specialists to train agents in latest methods food storage. Agents will carry further training to local leaders. Folders on sugar saving, canning, and storage used in program.

50,000 4-H Club members raising over 12,000 Victory gardens. Members already collected more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds scrap iron, rubber, and paper. Income from sale of waste has bought more than \$10,000 in bonds and stamps. Victory work program and physical fitness subjects of 4 major 4-H camps in June and July.

NORTH DAKOTA (June 1).--Continued intensive work to encourage more and better farm gardens. Estimate garden acreage increased at least 25 percent. Series district garden-management training meetings held followed by similar county meetings to train 6,213 local Victory Garden committee members. Reports indicate food goals being attained.

Improvement dairy feeding practices and milk quality discussed at leader-training meetings. Egg production exceeds the 18 percent increase set as goal.

Indications flax goal of 1,250,000 acres will be met. Flax growing encouraged and farms aided to obtain satisfactory seed supplies.

Plans set up and approved by USDA War Board for establishment of war service leaders in every community in State. Leaders to be kept informed regularly. Organization to be complete by end of June.

Extension forester named chairman State rural fire prevention program. Educational campaign mapped to spread information through neighborhood leader set-up. State-wide circulation of leaflet on rural fire prevention planned; circular prepared, also check list of fire hazards.

Intensive education program planned on cost-of-living control, involving series district and county training meetings in June. Neighborhood leaders to be used. Two publications planned for general release. Four State field agents assigned to leader training and supervisory work in counties during educational campaign.

Plans made for work in every community on food preservation. Extension sponsored refresher course for State and Federal workers. Local leaders to be trained June and July.

Farmers encouraged to buy materials needed for construction granaries for storage 80 million bushels wheat for which no space available. Construction information released. Stress placed on need for individual farm action.

Arrangements completed for farm-to-farm canvass to determine harvest and threshing labor requirements.